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United Nations Development Programme

Country/Region/Global: Republic of Belarus

Project Initiation Plan

Project Title: Global Climate Promise project - From Pledge to Impact- Belarus

Expected UNSDCF/CP Outcome(s): UNSDCF Outcome 2: A significant contribution to climate action is made by 2025 through the introduction of key measures of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Expected CPD Output(s): 2.1: Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and solutions developed and introduced.

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: 09 December 2024 – 31 December 2025

Implementing Partner: UNDP

Brief Description

This Project Initiation Plan is part of the UNDP global project 'From Pledge to Impact' under Climate Promise, the aim of which is to help countries align their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with the 1.5° goal and SDGs, strengthen quality and investability, and accelerate implementation to drive sustainable development. This is structured through three pillars:

Ambition: Support countries to enhance their 2025 NDCs – from bold targets to reduce emissions, increase resilience to climate impacts, channel finance, and other areas, in response to other global, regional, national, and local signals.

Acceleration: Scale-up implementation of climate action on the ground through public, private, international, and national finance towards NDCs. This also includes leveraging innovative approaches, such as high integrity carbon markets, and technical support for stronger policies, institutions, budgetary frameworks, and capacities.

Inclusivity: Meaningful and long-term engagement with underrepresented actors, including women, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and youth – to support them to contribute and lead climate action.

The key deliverables of the project include developed proposals for an information-gathering system to track NDC progress, capacity building for the companies with large volumes of GHG emissions on GHG emissions inventory, technical assessment of the existing national inventory system, drafts of the NDC 3.0 and legal document on its adoption, implementation plan for NDC 3.0, and Long-term Low GHG Emission Development Strategy for 2050 aligned with NDC targets.

Programme Period:	2024 - 2025
Quantum Project Number:	01003542
Gender Marker:	2

Total resources required	US$ 270,000.00
Total allocated resources:	US$ 270,000.00
• Regular	US$ 270,000.00
○ Other: Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by UNDP:

	Signature	Date
Deputy Resident Representative, Resident Representative a.i.	DocuSigned by: Armen Martirosyan B4733A69F3544A3...	26-Nov-2024
Armen Martirosyan		

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I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

In accordance with Article 4 of the UN Paris Agreement, the Republic of Belarus undertakes obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2035, observing the time frame for updating greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in accordance with paragraph 9 of this Article.

The Republic of Belarus supports the joint actions of the Parties to the Paris Agreement aimed at limiting the increase in average global temperature to more than 2.0 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, and makes efforts to contain its increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, which is in line with the goal of the Paris Agreement.

According to the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated September 29, 2021 No. 553, the Republic of Belarus expressed its intention to make a more ambitious contribution to the global response to climate change and set goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: an unconditional general economic goal - by at least 35 percent of the 1990 emissions level, taking into account the LULUCF sector, a conditional goal (in the case of using international financing mechanisms) - by at least 40 percent. The updated NDC was communicated to the UNFCCC secretariat on 08 October 2021.

In 2023, the development of the first draft revised NDC was supported by UNDP through UNDP-GEF Project 00106273/ 00107084 «Capacity building for Emission Trading and Strengthened MRV in the Republic of Belarus». The updated draft of NDC of Belarus was agreed at -37% below 1990 levels and shall be communicated to the UNFCCC secretariat in the year 2025. The updated first draft NDC target of the Republic of Belarus until 2035 is an economy-wide emission reduction target that covers all sectors of the Belarusian economy, including the land-use, forestry and other land-use change (LUFC/FOLC) sector, and contains sectoral targets for GHG emission reduction/absorption.

The new conditional overall economic objective is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 42 percent by 2035 from 1990 emissions levels, taking into account the LULUCF sector and subject to the use of international financing mechanisms to implement the best available technologies to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

The draft long-term strategy for the development of Belarus with low greenhouse gas emissions until 2050 was developed in 2023. The adoption of this Strategy will create the basis for achieving the NDC targets, as well as for further work on updating the NDC of Belarus after 2035.

The Climate Promise project 'From Pledge to Impact' shall further build political commitment and national ownership for the NDC and opens possibilities for more coordinated and systemic engagement with potential donors and partners. The project is complemented to the work done by UNDP CO during last years advancing climate change agenda. UNDP is the leading agency in the country in advancing climate change dimension. In 2023, UNDP supported the country with development of MRV system, capacity building at all the levels, drafting national legislation on development of carbon trading, development of climate-focused education. the support was provided with the core funds and through the ongoing development projects. In 2024, the support is provided with the focus on NAP development, capacity building, and climate- centred education for schoolers and pre-schoolers. The assistance is channelled using UNDP core funds, and through the ongoing Climate Box project.

The project is aligned with the Climate Promise Framework, and its main pillars. This project addresses one Global Outcome: Global Outcome 2: Amplifying Ambition: Countries have established long-term net-zero and climate resilient development pathways aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Key outputs of the project are:

- Proposals for an information-gathering system to track NDC progress, including: (i) data on GHG emissions from entities with total annual emissions exceeding 15,000 tons of CO_2 equivalent, and (ii) data on GHG reductions resulting from emission reduction measures
- Capacity building for the companies with large volumes of GHG emissions on GHG emissions inventory
- Technical assessment of the existing national inventory system and a comprehensive terms of reference for developing a transparent online tool for monitoring environmental impacts of climate change and GHG mitigation measures, focusing on water, air, and waste
- Technical assessment of the current national GHG inventory system and a comprehensive terms of reference for developing a transparent national GHG emissions inventory tool

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- Draft NDC 3.0 and legal document on its adoption
- Validation of NDC 3.0 among stakeholders
- Draft Long-term Low GHG Emission Development Strategy for 2050 aligned with NDC targets
- Draft Implementation plan for the achievement of NDC 3.0
- An engagement mechanism for children and youth, raising environmental awareness and commitment to sustainable practices contributing to NDC achievement
- Awareness raising and dialogue on NDC implementation and long-term pathways with broader society in the framework of the nation-wide forum.

The project shall communicate the activities and results achieved to external partners, stakeholders, donors and broader society through various tools such as social media posts, blogs. Moreover, awareness and dialogue on NDC implementation and long-term pathways with broader society will be enforced in the framework of the nation-wide environmental forum. The Project will also contribute to climate-focused education of youth and children, promote commitment to sustainable practices contributing to NDC achievement.

The project builds upon the previous projects implemented by the CO related to the development of National Communications (NC) (the 7th NC was prepared), capacity building for enhanced transparency (e.g. establishment of Monitoring, Reporting and Verification), as well as projects that promote energy efficiency and renewable energy sources (Global Environmental Fund). At present the UNDP CO supports development of the National Adaptation Plan.

This Project Initiation Plan is proposed to start the implementation immediately. This modality also allows for clustering other relevant projects that will support the implementation of the enhanced NDC under the Climate Promise umbrella, as the CO is expected to mobilize more funds from different donors.

Belarus currently is not a member of NDC Partnership. Request for membership to NDC Partnership was submitted in February 2024.

The CO is in close contact with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection to ensure efficiency and synergies of the activities.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Project Initiation Plan will be implemented by the UNDP Country Office under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) in line with UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (UNDP POPP). UNDP will be responsible for overall management, ensuring project coherence, the preparation and implementation of work plans and annual audit plans; preparation of project budget and budget revisions; disbursement and administration of funds; recruitment of national and international consultants and personnel; financial and progress reporting; and monitoring and evaluation.

The Country Office will work closely with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection. The CO will be responsible for preparation of Quarterly Project Progress reports and the Final PIP Report. Regional and global teams will be responsible for aggregating country reports to compile the overall results of the global portfolio, and the CO will be responsible for delivering and tracking activities and expenditures for the country level activities to the Regional Climate Promise Coordinator and the regional Climate Promise team.

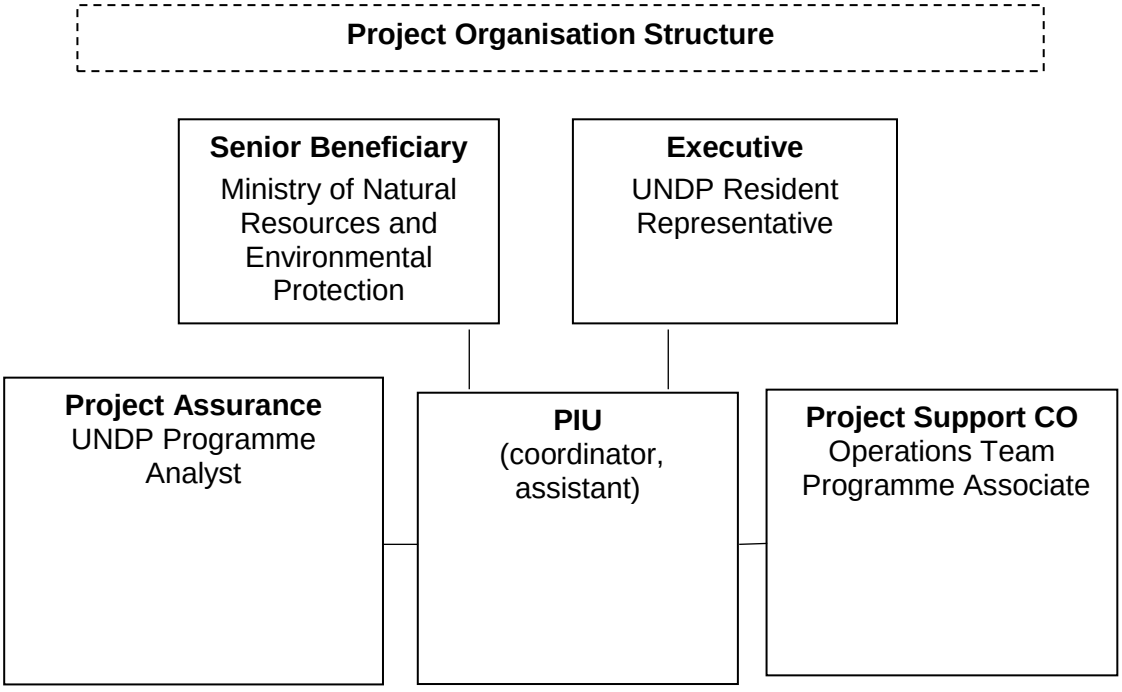
The project implementation will be supported by a national consultant/Project Coordinator who will work under the direct guidance and supervision of the programme Officer, Head of the Energy, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Portfolio, who will act as an in-county Country Office Climate Promise Coordinator. The Project Coordinator shall be contracted on NPSA to support the in-county CO Climate Promise Coordinator by providing technical/expert advice, drafting specific TORs, identify relevant expertise (national and international consultants and consulting companies), provide input for the progress report, etc. The Project assistant shall be contracted on NPSA and will be responsible for the overall administrative, financial and procurement management of the project. The assistant will report to the Project Coordinator.

A monitoring of the project will be implemented in accordance with the UNPD Policy and Procedures.

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Regular meetings, but no less frequently than on a quarterly basis, between the Senior Beneficiary (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection) and UNDP CO will be held to ensure the smooth implementation of the project, agree on possible countermeasures/management actions to address specific risks, assess the achievement of results at the country level, and ensure that all deliverables have been produced satisfactorily. Ad hoc meetings with experts will be arranged to ensure timely project deliveries and the achievement of results.

The project organisation structure is as follows:



UNDP DIRECT PROJECT COSTED STAFF AND ROLES

The Programme Analyst in charge of the Energy, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Unit who will act as an in-county Country Office Climate Promise Coordinator, shall provide strategic guidance, policy advice and technical input essential to deliver development results. She will also create synergies with other complementary interventions which contribute to the achievement of the overall project goal. She will oversee the project implementation, prepare project reports, review and approve the TORs, and will facilitate decision making to ensure project implementation proceeds in a flexible but efficient manner. She will be the key focal point for coordination between the CO and the Regional Climate Promise team, and with the, national partner authorities and other key stakeholders.

Programme Associate will support the implementation of the project through the monitoring of the budget and preparation of budget revision as needed, collection and analyses of relevant data that will support the regular project reporting, participation in procurement processes, ensuring that gender issues are adequately incorporated in the project implementation.

The Operations team will support the recruitment, procurement and payments related to the project.

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Monitoring

The PIP implementation will be monitored through the following monitoring plan:

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data and information against the expected results will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed activity results.	Quarterly	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.
Track PIP expenditures	PIP expenditures will be monitored and assessed to ensure adequate delivery and to advise and course correct when needed	Monthly	Lower than expected delivery will be addressed by project management.
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk.
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	Semi-annual	Relevant lessons are captured and used to inform management decisions. Knowledge products are uploaded into UNDP CO POCOMAS knowledge database
On-time communication with the regional Climate Promise Coordinator	Regional Climate Promise Coordinator shall be timely informed on progress implementation dynamics, budget expenditures and delivery, as well as on potential risks in project implementation and lessons learnt.	Regularly	Delivery issues and risk are identified and timely actions are taken to resolve the issues and address the risks
Progress Final Report	A progress report will be prepared and agreed with the national counterpart	At the end of the project implementation	Activities are planned based on the Workplan

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III. WORK PLAN

Period: 09 December 2024 – 31 December 2025

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES *List activity results and associated actions*	PLANNED BUDGET	
					Budget Description	Amount USD
Country Output *1. Enhanced data collection system to support the development of NDC 3.0, including recommendations, proposals, relevant documentation for integration, and sectoral pathways* *UNSDCF Outcome 2: A significant contribution to climate action is made by 2025 through the introduction of key measures of climate change adaptation and mitigation* *CPD output 2.1: Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and solutions developed and introduced* *Global Output 2.1: Countries have ownership, capacities and resources to enhance their NDC as part of the next revision cycle and global/regional stock take, aligned to long-term* pathways	# sets of recommendations and proposals for improving and optimizing this mechanism for collecting, processing, and analyzing data from enterprises emitting over 15,000 tons of CO2 equivalent # TORs for integration of current system for assessing the impact of harmful substances, including GHG emissions and waste, on environment into the State Program for Digitalization	0 sets of recommendations and proposals for improving and optimizing this mechanism for collecting, processing, and analyzing data from enterprises emitting over 15,000 tons of CO2 equivalent 0 TORs for integration of current system for assessing the impact of harmful substances, including GHG emissions and waste, on environment into the State Program for Digitalization	1 set of recommendations, proposals for improving and optimizing the mechanism for collecting, processing, and analyzing data from enterprises emitting over 15,000 tons of CO2 equivalent 1 TOR for integration of current system for assessing the impact of harmful substances, including GHG emissions and waste, on environment into the State Program for Digitalization	1. Activity Result: Enhanced data collection system to support the development of NDC 3.0, including recommendations, proposals, relevant documentation for integration, and sectoral pathways Action: - Assess the existing mechanism for collecting, processing, and analyzing data from enterprises emitting over 15,000 tons of CO2 equivalent, and develop recommendations and proposals for improving and optimizing this mechanism. - Evaluate the current outdated system for assessing the impact of harmful substances, including GHG emissions and waste, on environment and develop needed documentation for its integration into the State Program for Digitalization. - Development of sectoral reduction pathways based on projections, scenarios, programmes and projects, co-benefits associated with emissions reduction efforts, with special attention to energy efficiency	71300 Local consultants 71200 International consultants 72100 Contractual services - Companies 71300 Local consultants 71200 International consultants 72100 Contractual services - Companies 71300 Local consultants 71200 International consultants 72100 Contractual services - Companies	33,000 33,000 34,000

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	# reports with analyses of sectoral reduction pathways based on projections, scenarios, programmes and projects, co-benefits associated with emissions reduction efforts, with special attention to energy efficiency	*0* reports with analyses of sectoral reduction pathways based on projections, scenarios, programmes and projects, co-benefits associated with emissions reduction efforts, with special attention to energy efficiency	2-3 reports with analyses of sectoral reduction pathways based on projections, scenarios, programmes and projects, co-benefits associated with emissions reduction efforts, with special attention to energy efficiency			

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2. NDC 3.0 and legal documents on its adoption drafted *UNSDCF Outcome 2: A significant contribution to climate action is made by 2025 through the introduction of key measures of climate change adaptation and mitigation* *CPD output 2.1: Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and solutions developed and introduced* *Global Output 2.1: Countries have ownership, capacities and resources to enhance their NDC as part of the next revision cycle and global/regional stock take, aligned to long-term pathways*	Draft NDC 3.0 and legal document on its adoption developed	Zero draft NDC 3.0	Draft substantive, strong and detail NDC 3.0 and legal document on its adoption are developed	2. Activity Result: *NDC 3.0 and legal documents on its adoption drafted* Action: - Analysis of the NDC targets, policies and/or measures if they are gender-responsive and/or youth-sensitive - Analysis of the Nature Based Solutions integration into the NDC targets, policies and/or measures - Develop the draft NDC 3.0 and prepare a draft legal document for its formal adoption - NDC alignment with Long-term Low GHG Emission Development Strategy 2050 - Analysis of the institutional arrangements on clarity of roles and responsibilities for NDC implementation across priority sectors and different levels of government that build on existing coordination mechanisms	71300 Local consultants 71300 Local consultants 71300 Local consultants 71300 Local consultants 72100 Contractual services - Companies	10,000 10,000 10,000 20,000 21,000

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3. NDC 3.0 validated among stakeholders *UNSDCF Outcome 2: A significant contribution to climate action is made by 2025 through the introduction of key measures of climate change adaptation and mitigation* *CPD output 2.1: Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and solutions developed and introduced* *Global Output 2.1: Countries have ownership, capacities and resources to enhance their NDC as part of the next revision cycle and global/regional stock take, aligned to long-term pathways*	# of events arranged for engagement with the government ministries, civil society, the private sector, and international partners # of young people participated in environmental awareness raising events # of people participated in awareness raising and dialogue on NDC and long-term pathways in the framework of the nation-wide forum	0 events arranged for engagement with the government ministries, civil society, the private sector, and international partners 0 children and youth having awareness on NDC Up to 50 stakeholders are engaged in awareness raising and dialogue on NDC and long-term pathways	At least 3 events arranged for engagement with the government ministries, civil society, the private sector, and international partners At least 150 young people participated in environmental awareness raising events At least 500 people participated in awareness raising and dialogue on NDC implementation and long-term pathways in the framework of the nation-wide forum	3. Activity Result: NDC 3.0 validated among stakeholders Action: - Engage with government ministries, civil society, the private sector, and international partners, by organizing at least 3 events to gather input and ensure broad participation in the development and implementation of NDC 3.0. - Promotion of engagement mechanism for children and youth for raising environmental awareness and commitment to sustainable practices contributing to NDC 3.0 (at least 3 events). - Awareness raising dialogue on NDC and long-term pathways with broader society in the framework of the nation-wide forum	71600 Travel 72100 Contractual services - Companies 74200 Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs 75700 Training, workshop, conference 71600 Travel 72100 Contractual services – Companies 74200 Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs 75700 Training, workshop, conference 71600 Travel 72100 Contractual services - Companies 74200 Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs 75700 Training, workshop, conference	10,000 10,000 20,000

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Project Management				PIU DPC (Programme Officer, Programme Associate)	64300 & 74500 (Direct Project Costs) 71400 Contractual Services – Individuals	32,000 7,000
Project Implementation						250,000 USD
GMS					**75100 GMS**	20,000 USD
TOTAL PROJECT						**270,000 USD**
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION						**270,000 USD**

UNDP will not administer the coordination levy. UNDP will not report on the use of the coordination levy. UNDP does not have any liability on the use of the coordination levy by the United Nations Secretariat. Clarifications on the administration, reporting and/or use of the coordination levy by the United Nations Secretariat shall be discussed by the Donor and the United Nations Secretariat on bilateral basis.

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